

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3610, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, and that I may be permitted to include tabular and extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman for Florida?

There was no objection.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Pursuant to House Resolution 453 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3610.

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#### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3610) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, with Mr. CAMP in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG].

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am very happy to present to the House what I think is an excellent national defense appropri-

tions bill. There will be those who disagree with that statement, but I have to say this, that this bill was created by Members of both parties in a bipartisan fashion and the bill that we bring to the floor is agreed to by the vast majority of the subcommittee and the full Committee on Appropriations.

We did this because of the tremendous cooperation that the Members showed toward each other in dealing with the issues. And those issues were decided based on the merit, based on whether or not they contributed something to our national security, and based on whether or not there actually was a requirement for what we included in the bill.

There was no question about who did it help politically or where did it create jobs or not create jobs. The decisions were based on what is good to provide for the security of this Nation, and our interests, wherever they might be.

And not only the Members who are outstanding members of this committee on both sides, I wanted to take just a minute and call attention to those who serve us at the staff level, those staffers who work here hours and hours late at night after we have done our work and gone home.

And I want to point out Kevin Roper, for whom this Congress is his first time as the chief clerk of this subcommittee and has done such an outstanding job. His brain is like a computer. He is able to call up information without any hesitation when he is called upon to do that.

John Plashal, Dave Kilian, Alicia Jones, Juliet Pacquing, Greg Walters, Trish Keenan, Doug Gregory, Paul Juola, Tina Jonas, Steve Nixon, Stacy Trimble; Paige Schreiner, who by the way is on maternity leave, just having had a lovely new daughter; and Cynthia Hill, who was a detailee from Navy; and Mr. Greg Dahlberg, who works as a partner with Kevin Roper, who also is a tremendous asset to the work of this subcommittee; and Carmen Scialabba, who is in Mr. MURTHA'S office.

These ladies and gentlemen have all made tremendous contributions to helping this subcommittee do its work with the thousands and thousands of items and thousands and thousands of decisions that we have made during our markup.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to say this: This bill that we present, we started with the President's budget request. There are those who say that, "Well, you are a Republican Congress. When

the President's budget gets there, it is going to be dead on arrival." And we assured them all that is not the case.

We worked in cooperation with the administration. We began with the President's budget. We believed then, and we still believe, that it was short in a number of areas; so we made some additions. But basically and budget requested by the President is provided for in this bill.

But I will call to the attention of the Members some of the adds that we included, but let me tell Members about the numbers. We began with a 602(b) allocation of \$246.6 billion and we marked to that amount, and we did the best we could to get the most for the money that we possibly could. At that, based on real growth, counting for inflation, is actually \$4 billion under last year's bill.

By the time we got to the full committee, we had to make another \$800 million reduction. So again we stood up to the plate, and we made that \$800 billion reduction based on what the leadership thought would be the budget split between the House number and the Senate number.

Well, now we come to the floor, and that number is not low enough, based on the budget resolution we passed yesterday. So we will have to offer an amendment today that will cut an additional \$500 million out of this bill, and that amendment has been prepared with the cooperation and work of all of the members of the subcommittee. By the time we finish with that amendment, this bill will be down to \$245.3 billion. That is \$4.7 billion under last year if we adjust for inflation, which is the realistic thing to do, and it is \$1.6 billion under the authorized levels.

We have worked closely with the authorizers, with the chairman of the Committee on National Security and with the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, to fashion this bill. We have worked in lock step. We cannot provide everything that they authorize because we do not have that much money available. But the bill we are going to vote on today is very close to the bill that Members have already voted in large numbers to support for the intelligence authorization bill and as well as the national security authorization bill. As we get into the amendments, we will then get into more debate about the bill.

Mr. Chairman, I submit the following tabular material for the RECORD: